Knowing of your interest in the federal budget process, I wanted to inform you of the latest actions on President Obama's <u>budget proposal</u>. This week the House Budget Committee debated the proposal and approved the budget to be voted on by the full House of Representatives next week. I'm disappointed to tell you that the budget approved spends too much, taxes too much, and borrows too much. With our nation facing such serious economic difficulties, I believe that it is wrong to pursue a plan that will drive us further into debt.

Under the President's budget, nearly every American will see their taxes increase through a massive energy tax hike that will cost up to \$3,128 per household. But this isn't nearly enough to cover the exploding deficits that President Obama and House Democrats are advocating. In fact, according to projections, the deficits over the next ten years will exceed all of our nation's previous deficits combined.

There are better solutions and that's why I am supporting an alternative budget blueprint that will limit spending, create jobs, lower taxes, and help bring our debt under control. America needs to keep spending at responsible levels to ensure that future generations have the same opportunities that we've had, instead of inheriting a mountain of debt. Lower taxes, especially on small businesses that would allow them to reinvest in their company, will help put our economy back on the right track. And we need to make certain that we avoid the policies of the 1970's which led to double-digit inflation and huge cost-of-living increases. The American people expect Congress to do what's right for our economy, and I am committed to continue working to ensure Congress lives up to that obligation.